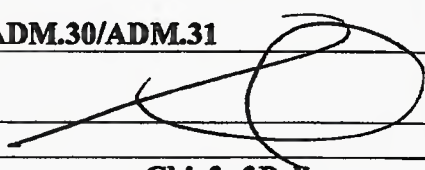


LAS VEGAS POLICE DEPARTMENT	ADMINISTRATION
SUBJECT: <i>Community Relations / Crime Prevention</i>	NUMBER: ADM.30/ADM.31
EFFECTIVE DATE:	REVIEW DATE:
AMENDS/SUPERSEDES:	APPROVED: 
	Chief of Police
NMMLEPSC STANDARDS: <i>ADM.21.01 – ADM.21.02</i>	NMSA:

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the efficient and effective management of the Community Relations/Crime Prevention function by providing administrative guidance that identifies the responsibilities and community relations/crime prevention processes within the uniform and other components of the department.

II. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Las Vegas Police Department to manage the function of Community Relations/Crime Prevention in an effective and efficient manner by coordinating the efforts of uniform and other organizational components as provided in this policy.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy is applicable to all commissioned and non-commissioned personnel of the Las Vegas Police Department.

IV. REFERENCES:

- A. Las Vegas Police Department
- B. New Mexico Law Enforcement Accreditation ADM 21.01-21.02

V. DEFENITIONS:

- A. Community Relations: program to address problems such as crime control through a working partnership with citizens and other entities.
- B. Crime Prevention: the attempt to reduce victimization and to deter crime and criminals.

VI. PROCEDURE:

Community involvement is essential to the operation of any police department. The citizens are the eyes and ears of the police. Without the assistance and acceptance of the community, a police force cannot function effectively. All avenues must be utilized in promoting the respect and cooperation of the public with the police.

It is the policy of the Las Vegas Police Department to involve all Department personnel in a City-wide community relations effort. This includes working to establish an attitude that the police are an integral part of the community. Citizen participation and interaction with the police is necessary to achieve a condition within the community where the normal application of law enforcement may prevail. It is the policy of the Department that community relations and community education is a shared effort of each and every employee. The Las Vegas Police Department is committed to the prevention of crime through education.

I. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A. To create and maintain liaison with community groups and organizations.

1. This includes exchanging information, identifying police service needs of the community, promoting police/citizen contacts, acquainting each other with mutual problems and encouraging action aimed at solving these problems.
2. Information obtained in these meetings may be used to provide direction in development or modification of Department policies, procedures, and programs.

A. To educate citizens about the functions and operations of the department.

- B. The Department strives to provide, through established programs and the media crime awareness information and crime prevention procedures. The intent is to assist the public in reducing its victimization rate and its fear of crime.

C. To inform the public that crime prevention is a cooperative effort between the Department and the citizens of Las Vegas.

D. To assist in organizing crime prevention groups in residential areas through the Neighborhood Watch Program.

1. Initial organizing efforts may be made by the Police Department, or by concerned citizens.
2. Through group development, the citizens should become better educated on how his or her involvement is vital to community crime prevention.

E. To present crime prevention programs and maintain liaison with diverse community groups including, but not limited to:

- a. Businesses
- b. Community
- c. Local citizens groups
- d. Local civic associations
- e. Church groups
- f. Schools
- g. Concerned citizens

F. To participate in social service and criminal justice diversion programs through a variety of crime prevention programs. In addition the Department works with the Mental Health Resources by placing into protective custody those persons who meet established criteria.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Department Personnel

1. No one can do more to foster good police community relations than the employee who is in contact with the public on a day to day basis. Each employee is encouraged to cultivate the respect and cooperation of the public in these day to day contacts. Employees must realize that every contact with a citizen has an impact on police community relations.
2. It is the responsibility of all Department personnel to promote good community relations by recognizing that their actions and demeanor in dealing with the general public has a significant effect on the image of the Department. This ultimately influences the Department's overall effectiveness and level of acceptance within the City.
3. The Department is committed to correcting actions, practices, and attitudes which may contribute to community tensions and grievances.
4. It is the responsibility of all officers of the Department to provide basic crime awareness and prevention information to citizens when answering calls for service or through informational contact.

B. Community Relations/Crime Prevention

1. All employees are responsible for Community Relations/Crime Prevention.

C. Reporting Requirements

1. When a member of this Department makes a presentation to a community organization, that member will submit a brief report in the form of a memorandum to their Supervisor. This report will include, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. Program/presentation topic;
 - b. Number of participants;
 - c. Any concerns expressed by participants; and
 - d. Potential problems which have a bearing on law enforcement activities within the community;
 - e. Length of presentation.

III. PROGRAMS:

A. Crime Prevention Programs may include, but are not limited to:

1. Neighborhood Watch Program
2. Home and Business Security Surveys
3. Programs of interest to business owners. (ex. Shoplifting Awareness, Worthless Check procedure, Fraud information, etc)
4. Drug and Alcohol Information
5. Elementary School programs
 - a. Stranger Danger
 - b. Pedestrian Safety
 - c. Drug and alcohol abuse
 - d. Vandalism
 - e. Bicycle Safety
 - f. Emergencies

- g. Seat belts
 - h. Personal character (ex. Self discipline, Respect for Authority, stealing, etc)
 - i. Other programs requested and deemed appropriate
- B. Crime Prevention presentations may be presented by any officer in the Department having expertise in the area of concern. If a member not assigned to the Field Operations Division assists the officer it will be the responsibility of that member to notify their supervisor to ensure that no scheduling conflicts occur.
- C. The officer may also utilize individuals from the community or other resources to assist in presentation of programs.
- D. Las Vegas Police Department will prepare a report on an annual basis of citizens concerns, potential problems and recommendations. The report will be generated by a commander for final review by the Chief of Police.

VII. ATTACHMENTS:

NONE